

REMARKS

Claims 13-63 were pending prior to this response. With this amendment and response, claims 43-48 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 13-17, 38-42, and 49-53 are withdrawn as non-elected claims. Claims 13, 14, 18, 19, 23, 25, 29, 30, 32, 33, 35, 36, 38, 39, 49, 50, 54, 55, 62, and 63 are amended herewith. Support for these amendments can be found on page 5, line 38-page 6, line 2; Example 1 of U.S. Provisional Appl. No. 60/004,258, which was incorporated by reference and added to the present invention in Example 6; and page 2, lines 19-21 and 24-29 of U.S. Provisional Appl. No. 60/004,258, which was incorporated by reference and added to the present application in the Abstract; the paragraph following the paragraph ending at page 5, line 4; and the paragraph following the paragraph ending at page 7, line 20.

Applicant hereby elects to pursue (1) sodium hydroxide as the species of an alkalizing agent and (2) hydrogen peroxide as the species of the whitener, without traverse. Applicant reserves the right to argue rejoinder of the non-elected alkalizing agents and whiteners during prosecution upon allowance of a generic claim.

Claims readable on the elected species of sodium hydroxide include claims 18-37 and 54-63. Claims readable on the elected species of hydroxide peroxide include claims 18-37 and 54-63.

The foregoing election is made without prejudice to Applicant's right to claim the subject matter of all non-elected claims in this or any related application.

No new matter is added and no change in inventorship is believed to result from the amendments proposed herein. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the proposed amendment and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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